The objective of the symposium is to reflect on current articulations of the ratio between artistic work and research work done by contemporary artists in universities. Artists who are active in the art world also develop further interest in research work that aims at both systematic knowledge building in artistic action and as describing the outcomes of such knowledge building. The use of fiction, narrative methods, artistic description and alike in the research process emerges from the need to remain within artistic discourse instead of changing, in the middle of the process, to a context of scientific scrutiny.

The significant issues that arise include:

* the need for methodologies of artistic research
* the impact of the strategies of contemporary art and thinking on the strategies of artistic research
* the ambiguous nature of knowledge in artistic work
* the translation/interpretation of the emotive, the experimental, and the inner experience to articulated outer expressions
* the role of sense experience in artistic research
* aesthetics understood as knowledge of sense experience, in artistic research
* the narrative characteristics of artistic research
* the role and nature of the written report in projects focused on artistic work
* the significant differences in artistic research in the areas of different art forms, design and media
* the relationship between art curating and artistic research
* the possible impact of artistic research and its institutional frames more generally on the practices of contemporary art

The symposium will take place in the Helsinki premises of Aalto University, Araba Campus, Hämeentie 133 C, Sampo Hall.

The Symposion will include presentations of seven invited speakers plus workshop and evening program.

Teemu Mäki
Annette Maechtel
Matti Tainio
Vesa Kantola
Marc Goodwin
Marius Gelunas
Jan Svenungsson

Organized by Aalto University School of Art and Design
Department of Art (Helsinki) & Department of Art and Media (Por)

Symposium
Artistic Research & Contemporary Art
14th to 16th March 2011

Programme

**March 14th**
- 12:30 Opening, Invitation to study, by Harri Laido & Jukka Virta
- 13:45 Key note: Toril Johnsdotter: An answer to all questions

**March 15th**
- 10:00 Key note: Elina Heikkilä: Collision of Art and Research
- 11:30 Key note: Miya Yoshida: Preparing Worlds, Preparing Back Words
- 12:40 Lunch break
- 14:00 Key note: Jaana Houessou: WORKING ALONGSIDE, practical methods for artistic research
- 15:30 Key note: Arunas Gelunas: Artist needs an[rational] voice
- 17:30 End of the first part of the symposion

In the programme of the third day, doctoral students from School of Art and Design present their ideas and problems on the theme, with comments from senior researchers.

**March 16th**
- 10:00 A summary of yesterday’s themes, by Harri Laido & Jukka Virta
- 10:15 Doctoral students’ presentations and discussion: “How Artistic Research Affects My Study”
- 11:30 Key note: Jan Svenungsson: What is it that makes a work of art important and what can we say about it?
- 12:40 Lunch break
- 13:50 Discussion
- 14:00 Presentation: Vesa Kantola
- 15:30 Discussion
- 15:45 Key note: Elina Heikkilä
- 16:00 Discussion
- 16:10 Discussion
- 16:30 End of the Day

The symposium will include presentations of seven invited speakers plus workshops and evening program.

**April 10th**
- 17:30 Intelligent discussion in the foyer
- 12:45 Key note: Jaana Houessou: AWARENESS OF TENSION, a practical method for artistic research
- 12:50 Discussion
- 13:00 Lunch break
- 14:00 Key note: Annette Maechtel: Artist needs an[rational] voice
- 15:30 Discussion
- 15:45 Key note: Arunas Gelunas: Artist needs an[rational] voice
- 17:30 End of the first part of the symposion